

# JULY NEWSLETTER

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
of Whitefish Bay

## STEPPING INTO WHAT'S NEXT!

Dear friends,

As we step into July, we give thanks—not just for sunshine and sabbath rhythms—but for the visible signs of transformation happening right here at church.

If you've come through our doors lately, you've navigated cones, dust, and some very creative entrances. And still—you've shown up. You've worshiped faithfully, gathered in community, and shared grace in the midst of disruption.

Thank you for your patience, flexibility, and good humor as we walk through this season of construction together!

The Narthex renovation is taking shape beautifully. What was once a blueprint and a dream is now becoming a welcoming space designed for conversation, hospitality, and connection. With each beam and brick, we're not just improving a building—we're creating space to connect our past to reach our future, deepening our ability to welcome others into the life of this church.







In the book of Revelation, Christ declares, “See, I am making all things new” (Rev. 21:5).

That promise is not only for the end of time—it’s a present and ongoing work. Jesus is making our lives new, restoring our relationships, and yes—renewing our facility as a tool for ministry and welcome.

During this season of change, let’s all do what we can to support hospitality. If you’re able-bodied, consider parking a little farther from the building to leave nearby spaces for those who need them. And once you’re inside, help create a spirit of welcome by sitting a little closer to the front—you might even meet someone new!

This summer, as paint goes on and plans unfold, let’s continue building something even greater: a spirit of community grounded in love. Come as you are—construction zone and all—and know that you are part of what God is building here.

We’re excited to keep moving forward together. Thank you for walking this journey with us—dusty shoes and all.

In gratitude and hope,

Pastor Gary





# CAMP LUCERNE RECAP!



Last month, more than 50 campers, youth leaders and adult volunteers headed Northwest for an awesome outdoor experience at Lake Lucerne! This year marks the 30th year that UMCWFB has led a group at Camp Lucerne! Campers learned how to play the harmonica, fish, tie-dye and paint rocks. We also enjoyed games such as capture the flag, kickball, gaga ball, swimming and boating! We enjoyed meaningful worship times overlooking the lake and campfire, and created Bible skits. Our campers loved connecting with other kids, youth and adult leaders, and everyone grew in their faith as we focused on our theme of Trusting God! We are so grateful to our adult volunteers who made this experience possible! Praise God for a meaningful and successful Camp Lucerne experience!"





# UPCOMING EVENTS

★ UMCWFB ★

# BASEBALL Night

TICKET ONLY  
**\$10** \*

MONDAY  
**7**  
JULY

**CHINOOKS VS MALLARDS**

CONCORDIA in MEQUON

**6:35 PM**

\*TICKETS \$10 IN ADVANCE, MUST RSVP BY JULY 2

RSVP Here

Contact Dick Steimetz at [rsteinmetz@wi.rr.com](mailto:rsteinmetz@wi.rr.com)

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
of Whitefish Bay

## SUMMER YOGA!

### TUESDAYS AT KLODE PARK

### JULY 8 & 22 AUGUST 5 & 19

### 10AM

Supervision of children provided at  
playground; picnic potluck following yoga

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
of Whitefish Bay

# family POOL Party

CO-HOSTED BY YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES AND KID'S CHOIR

THURSDAY  
**JULY 10**  
FROM 10AM-NOON  
\$8.50 PER PERSON, PAY AT THE POOL

**SCHULTZ AQUATIC PARK**  
1301 W. HAMPTON AVE., GLENDALE

RSVP TO  
JENNY FISHER ([jfisher@umcwfb.org](mailto:jfisher@umcwfb.org))

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
of Whitefish Bay

## SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT  
FRI. JUNE 12 7PM  
"THE LITTLE WITCH  
AND THE WARDROBE"

**JUNE**

**JULY** POOL PARTY!  
THURS. JULY 10 @ 10AM  
SCHULTZ AQUATIC CENTER

**AUG** SOCIAL MEET-UP  
FRI. AUG. 22 @ 6PM  
KLODE PARK BEER GARDEN

UMCWFB.ORG



# WRITE LETTERS TO ASP!



Matthew 5:16  
**ASP 2025**  
UMCWFB



**KRISTAL MELBYE**  
kmelbye@umcwfb.org

On July 12th, 16 youth and adults head to Greenbriar County, WV to work on homes as part of the Appalachia Service Project (ASP). It's a tradition that family members, friends, and members of our church community write letters to those on ASP. We give the letters to participants midweek as it's a great time to receive some love from home. These letters are always so appreciated by everyone! Please consider writing some letters and drop them off in Kristal Melbye's mailbox at church by Friday, July 11th. If you'd like a list of those going, please **[CLICK HERE](#)** or contact Kristal.

# FAREWELL TO TABETHA!



This summer, our former Office & Marketing aficionado Tabetha Steege is performing the role of Contessa Almaviva in *Le Nozze di Figaro* at the prestigious Hawaii Performing Arts Festival! Working under a world-class director, an esteemed maestro, and alongside Grammy-winning voice faculty, the experience has already been a whirlwind of excitement and artistic growth. Tabetha is deeply grateful for the continued support from her community back home in Wisconsin— a blessing

she carries with her in every performance! She'll be in Hawaii for about a month before returning to Wisconsin for a little while, before she and Greg take the next exciting steps in their journey! Thank you Tabetha for all your love and service to this community! Be sure to send some extra love and prayers her way!



# UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



## SUPPORTING MULTIPLE MISSIONS & MINISTRIES

United Women in Faith (UWF) ended our fiscal year in June and celebrated **\$18,630** in mission contributions to these deserving organizations/programs:

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>\$500</b>  | • Acres of Hope International, Uganda  |
| <b>\$1000</b> | • Appalachia Service Project, Youth Mission Trip   |
| <b>\$300</b>  | • Claudia Circle Quilt Ministry  |
| <b>\$1600</b> | • CourageMKE for LGBTQ+ youth support  |
| <b>\$2000</b> | • Feed My Starving Children  |
| <b>\$700</b>  | • Habitat for Humanity   |
| <b>\$1500</b> | • MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary  |
| <b>\$241</b>  | • Milwaukee Rescue Mission Meal Programs   |
| <b>\$274</b>  | • Milwaukee Riverkeeper  |
| <b>\$1700</b> | • Northcott Neighborhood House   |
| <b>\$500</b>  | • Peace Learning Center  |
| <b>\$1500</b> | • Rooted & Rising - Washington Park  |
| <b>\$1500</b> | • UMCWFB Meal Programs   |
| <b>\$5315</b> | • Southeast District UWF -- Pledge to Mission & other mission giving for local, national, & international missions |

**\$18,630  
Total!**

All of this was possible through the immense and faithful generosity & commitment of UWF members and through church member participation in our fundraisers (Holiday Fair, Souper Bowl, Poinsettia sales). Thank you all for your support!!!

UWF women also are involved in service that cannot be measured in dollars. For example, they knit hats & scarves for Marvin Pratt Elementary students; sew quilts of various sizes for community living facilities; prepare meals for those in need; acquire and distribute toiletries for those lacking resources; tend to the gardens at church.

UWF women of UMCWFB certainly live out the global UWF vision to turn faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.





# MEN'S MINISTRY

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



## WORK DAY! 🧑‍🔧

Thanks to the many able bodies who came out to support the Habitat work day on Saturday June 28! Our next opportunity is Wednesday August 27 at 8:15am- please contact Don Lybeck!

## PLAY DAY! ⚾

Join us for Family Fun at the Chinooks Baseball Game at 6:35 on July 7. Tickets are only \$10 each and parking is just \$2.50 (tell parking ppl you're with UMCWFB)! RSVP for advanced tix [HERE](#) thru Wed July 2, and we'll sit in the 3<sup>rd</sup> base bleachers! Bring portable seats w/ backs if you need. Contact Dick Steinmetz with questions!



**DON LYBECK**

[mdonlybeck@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mdonlybeck@sbcglobal.net)



**DICK STEINMETZ**

[rsteinmetz@wi.rr.com](mailto:rsteinmetz@wi.rr.com)





# BELOVED COMMUNITY

## 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE UPDATE

Last month, Pastor Gary, Jeff McClellan, and Kathy Schluter attended the Wisconsin Annual Conference, a gathering of clergy and lay leaders from across the state. Centered on the theme “Grace is Sufficient,” the event emphasized the need for churches to adapt and reach those on the margins, in line with the UMC’s new vision:

***Love Boldly. Serve Joyfully. Lead Courageously.***

Key decisions included approving constitutional amendments from the 2024 General Conference to:

1. Create Regional Conferences with contextual flexibility,
2. Expand nondiscrimination policies to include gender and ability, and
3. Deepen commitments to racial justice.

A highlight was Bishop Jung’s State of the Church address, encouraging innovation and collaboration during this pivotal moment in the church’s life. His full message is available on YouTube.





# MISSION OF THE MONTH



The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), a unit of Global Ministries, is a humanitarian organization that helps alleviate human suffering, one of the two main goals of Global Ministries. UMCOR assists the most vulnerable people affected by crisis or chronic need. UMCOR's work is carried out by providing relief and assistance in response to natural and human-made

disasters and supporting programs in the areas of migration, health, food security and environmental sustainability.



## ALLEVIATING SUFFERING ALL OVER THE WORLD: MYANMAR

Please continue to hold in prayer the people of Myanmar after a 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck the country in April. At least 1,644 people died and millions have been impacted by infrastructure damage and loss of power. The earthquake also led to the deadly collapse of a building in Bangkok, Thailand. Furthermore, May's cyclone has been called one of the strongest storms to ever hit Myanmar, with hundreds more feared dead. Rohingya refugees along the border in Bangladesh also experienced losses. UMCOR recently awarded a solidarity grant to the Bangladesh Methodist Church for emergency relief, and we're focusing on Myanmar as our Mission of the Month throughout the summer months.

PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO GIVE USING THE VENMO APP, SPECIFYING UMCOR!







THE UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH of WHITEFISH BAY

# CHURCH & SOCIETY

## Sock Donations

Do you have socks to recycle? The shelves for donations can be found in the hallway opposite the chapel. All kinds of clean socks are acceptable: threadbare, with holes, unmatched, any fiber (wool, cotton, synthetic, blends), and any size or brand. The socks are sent to TerraCycle in collaboration with Brown Deer UMC. Northcott earns funds based on the weight of the shipments. Hygiene items can also be donated for MacCannon Brown Homeless Sanctuary. Specific full-size items are appreciated: bars of soap, shampoo, toothpaste, dental floss, deodorant, shaving cream, and vaseline. The collection bin and complete list are on the shelves near the chapel. Missions continue during construction.

**Thanks for your donations!**



**MARY MUELLER**  
mjmuelle.uef@gmail.com



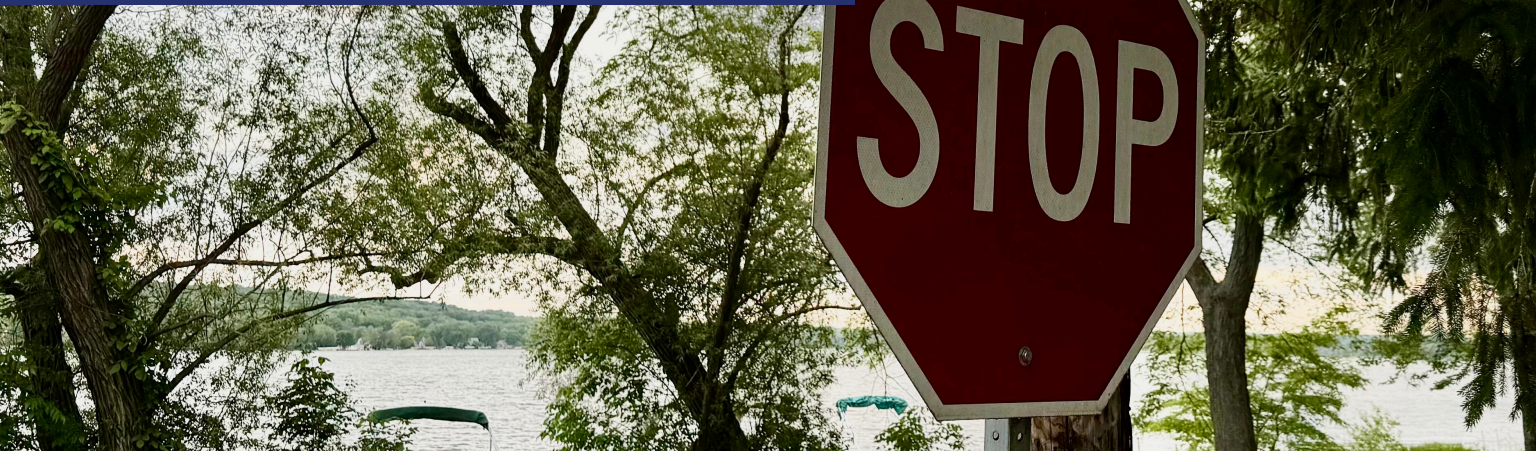
ENJOY YOUR

# SUMMER!





# FROM THE BOARD



The Servant Leadership Board met on June 24 for its regular monthly meeting. Key highlights include:

- **Spiritual Leadership Devotion:** Pastor Gary shared a reflection on setting an example through faith, love, and service, inspired by 1 Timothy 4.
- **Candle of Peace:** Mel Vance presented a proposed liturgy inspired by South African Methodist churches, featuring the weekly lighting of a "Candle of Peace" at the end of worship to symbolize hope and reconciliation.
- **Pastoral Retreat Insights:** Pastor Gary reported on a recent staff retreat focused on the "Simple Church" model (Connect, Grow, Serve). Plans include syncing the church calendar to this model, launching a Shelby app directory, and strengthening discipleship efforts.
- **Financial Update:** Erin Norris noted that expenses remain on track, but both pledged and unpledged contributions are currently below projections. Members are encouraged to fulfill their annual commitments.
- **Recognition:** Chelsea Montague and Craig Walker were thanked for their faithful service as they conclude their leadership terms.
- **Summer Break:** The Board will not meet in July and will reconvene in August, encouraging everyone to enjoy time with family and friends.
- **The next Council on Ministries meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 12.**





# CELEBRATING JULY BIRTHDAYS!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 Mary Mueller Allison Feix	2 Kevin McMahon Kate Owusu-Ayim	3 John Wierschem Nancy Bolender Jodi Houge	4 Tom Ebert Kathryn Yunk	5 Barb Armstrong Lynn Bennett Mary Lynn Scheuber
6 Julie Harding Linda Vance	7 Beth MacNeil	8 Betty Koch Lauren Toll Molly Milia	9 Nancy Batchelder Claire Knab	10 Tom Webster	11 Ben Wunderlich Cole Zastava Joyce Michelstetter Cindy Abel Madison Huber Meg Kenning	12 Nicholas Gorham Jen Mitchell
13	14 Cathy Lathrop Bob Scheelk Andy Nerbun	15 Linda Serrano Bret Nerbun Linda Lalicata	16 Andrew Joeckel Gabby Donovan	17	18 Matt Fisher Cam Brawley	19 Dean Kenning
20 Lea Rayman	21 Aaron Bubb	22 Pam Vaughan Daniel Whitney Alta Lybeck Addie Lybeck	23 Augie Mortellaro Rachel Andeen	24 Ed Harris Maddy Modrinski	25 Karen Haedt	26 Carl Trimble
27 Josh Averbek	28 Susan Westergard Ally Melbye Luke Melbye	29 Sue Krezoski Ann Yurkowitz	30 Julie Hapeman	31		